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Item 3 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda and annotations

Note by the secretariat

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I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. The provisional agenda presented for adoption is as follows:
 1. Election of the President.
 2. Election of other officers.
 3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
 4. Credentials of delegations.
 5. Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers.
 6. Programme and budget:
 - (a) Programme and budget for the biennium 2002-2003;
 - (b) Report on the performance of the Convention's trust funds for 2000-2001;
 - (c) Report on the performance of the Trust Fund for supplementary activities in the biennium 2000-2001;
 - (d) Need for, modalities for, costs involved and feasibility of the regional coordination units;
 - (e) Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001.
 7. Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements:
 - (a) Consideration of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group for the in-depth review and analysis of the reports submitted to the third and fourth sessions of the Conference of the Parties;
 - (b) Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention;
 - (c) Consideration of the report on ways of improving the efficiency and the effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology;
 - (d) Review of the report of the secretariat on progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention;

- (e) Review of available information regarding the financing of Convention implementation by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention;
- (f) Review of the report of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism on their role and results obtained in facilitating consultative processes for negotiating and concluding partnership agreements based on national, subregional and regional action programmes;
- (g) Consideration of some specific conclusions and recommendations made by the Global Mechanism related to affected country Parties experiences and constraints in the implementation of action programmes.

8. Committee on Science and Technology:

- (a) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it;
- (b) Maintenance of the roster of experts;
- (c) Creation of an ad hoc panel or panels of experts, if necessary, with their terms of reference.

9. Global Mechanism: Review, pursuant to article 21, paragraph 5(d), of the Convention, of the report on the activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it.

10. Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies.

11. Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue sessions.

12. Outstanding items:

- (a) Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure;
- (b) Consideration of procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention, with a view to deciding how to take this matter forward;

- (c) Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6, of the Convention;

13. Programme of work for the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties.
14. Report of the session.

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Introduction

Venue

2. Pursuant to provisions contained in decision 22/COP.4¹, and in accordance with rule 3 of the rules of procedure, the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 5) will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 1 to 12 October 2001. The session will be opened by the Executive Secretary at the United Nations premises in Geneva on Monday, 1 October 2001.

Logistic arrangements

3. A few weeks before the opening of COP 5, the secretariat will distribute an information note detailing registration and security procedures, as well as other logistic arrangements for the session.

Participants

4. In accordance with article 36, paragraph 2, of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), for each State or regional economic integration organization which ratifies, accepts or approves the Convention or accedes thereto after the deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention enters into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit with the Depositary of the relevant instrument. Consequently, the Parties as of the opening of COP 5 on 1 October will be the States and regional economic integration organizations which have deposited their instruments by 3 July 2001. Those which deposit their instruments after 3 July 2001 and by 14 July 2001 will become Parties during COP 5. Those that do so after 14 July 2001 will not become Parties until after the closure of the session but can participate in the session as observers, along with United Nations specialized agencies, accredited intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. Relevant information on the status of ratifications is contained in ICCD/COP(5)/INF.2.

¹ For decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session, see ICCD/COP(4)/11/Add.1.

Agenda

5. By its decision 5/COP.4, the COP decided to include in the agenda for its fifth session certain selected items and other standing items on its agenda. These have been taken into account in the provisional agenda, in addition to issues arising from other decisions.

Documentation

6. A list of documents for the session and other documents of relevance is provided in annex I. In addition to normal distribution, official COP 5 documents as well as full reports from country Parties will be made available on the secretariat's World Wide Web site at the following address on the Internet: <<http://www.unccd.int>>.

1. Election of the President

7. Rule 22 of the rules of procedure adopted by the COP (decision 1/COP.1² as amended by decision 20/COP.2³) provides for the election of the President from among the representatives of the Parties present at the session. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary will call for the election of the President.

2. Election of other officers

8. Pursuant to rule 22 of the rules of procedure (as amended by decision 20/COP.2), nine Vice-Presidents and the Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology, who, with the President, are to serve as the Bureau of the session, shall be elected from the representatives of the Parties present at the session, in a manner such that every geographical region shall be represented by at least two members. The President will call for the election of these officers.

3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

9. The COP will have before it the provisional agenda (see section I, above) to consider for adoption. A tentative schedule of work for the session, on which the subsections below elaborate, is contained in annex II.

Purpose of the session

10. The Conference of the Parties, at its fourth session, adopted a decision on its programme of work (decision 5/COP.4), which included standing as well as selected items for discussion at COP 5. These items have been incorporated in the provisional agenda. The Convention provides, in article 22, paragraph 2(a), that the COP shall regularly review the implementation of the Convention and the functioning of its institutional arrangements. The organization of work of the session is designed to facilitate such activities, focusing attention on outstanding issues requiring resolution.

² For decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its first session, see ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1.

³ For decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its second session, see ICCD/COP(2)/14/Add.1.

Opening meeting

11. As to the structure of the opening plenary meeting, the COP may wish to consider the following scenario. The President would make a statement after his or her election. Statements would be made on behalf of regional groups, to be followed by an opportunity for statements by representatives of United Nations agencies and other intergovernmental organizations and one representative of non-governmental organizations. The Executive Secretary would then present an overview of issues before COP 5, introduce the documents prepared by the secretariat, and present a status report on ratifications of, or accessions to, the Convention.

Establishment of a Committee of the Whole and allocation of its tasks

12. The practice followed at the previous sessions of the Conference of the Parties was to establish a sessional Committee of the Whole (COW), chaired by a Vice-President of the COP and open to the participation of all delegations. This could be done at COP 5. The Committee of the Whole would recommend decisions on outstanding issues for adoption by the COP. Its Chairperson would have the authority to delegate work, as appropriate, to drafting groups. Accordingly, the COP may wish to establish a Committee of the Whole at its opening plenary meeting and to designate its Chairperson. The COP could allocate to the Committee of the Whole the following items: adoption of the programme and budget for the biennium 2002-2003; consideration of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group for the review of reports submitted by Parties; consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to review the implementation of the Convention; the rule of procedure not yet agreed upon, referred to below; and any other matter.

Committee on Science and Technology

13. The Committee on Science and Technology (CST) is tentatively scheduled to meet from 2 to 4 October. In accordance with decision 16/COP.4, the secretariat has prepared ICCD/COP(5)/CST/1 containing a provisional annotated agenda for the Committee's work, as well as other documents needed for its deliberations, which are listed in annex I.

Initial segment

14. It is proposed in the tentative schedule that COP 5 be divided into two segments. During the initial segment from 1 to 5 October, in addition to the CST meeting, the Committee of the Whole would initiate its work in accordance with the agenda of the COP.

15. The plenary meeting would meet on 5 October to hear reports from the Committee of the Whole and the CST, to take all possible decisions on issues before the COP, to review the organization of work for the second week, and to provide for further meetings of the Committee of the Whole as appropriate.

Special segment on Convention implementation

16. At the special segment on 8 and 9 October, Parties would have an opportunity to review and make statements on the implementation of the Convention.

17. Decision 11/COP.1 provides that reports by Parties, together with advice and information provided by the Committee on Science and Technology and the Global Mechanism consistent with their respective mandates and such other reports as the Conference of the Parties may call for, shall constitute the basis of the review of the implementation by the Conference of the Parties.

18. The review of the comprehensive report from the Ad Hoc Working Group (AHWG) could also be undertaken during the special segment. The special segment could take decisions on any issues remaining outstanding after the first week.

Parallel event

19. The fourth interparliamentary Round Table is planned from 4 to 5 October 2001. It would involve the participation of parliamentarians from a number of countries. It is anticipated that any outcome from the round table would be communicated to the COP for consideration.

Concluding plenary meeting

20. The concluding plenary meeting of COP 5 will take any decisions not previously adopted. It will also have before it for adoption the report on credentials to be submitted by the Bureau. Finally, it will decide upon the date and venue of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties, taking account of:

(a) Article 22, paragraph 4, of the Convention, which provides that, unless otherwise decided by the COP, the second, third and fourth ordinary sessions shall be held yearly; thereafter, ordinary sessions shall be held every two years;

(b) Rule 4, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, which provides that at each ordinary session, the COP shall decide on the date and duration of the next ordinary session and that the COP should endeavour not to hold such sessions at a time which would make the attendance of a significant number of delegations difficult;

(c) Rule 3 of the rules of procedure, which states that the sessions of the COP shall take place at the seat of the secretariat, unless the COP decides otherwise or other appropriate arrangements are made by the secretariat in consultation with the Parties;

(d) Decision 1/COP.2, which provides that the fifth ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties shall take place in the year 2001, and that thereafter, ordinary sessions shall be held every two years;

(e) Any offers to host the sixth session and cover the incremental costs thereof.

21. The proposed schedule allows for the concluding plenary meeting on 12 October. Accordingly, all negotiations should be concluded by 11 October.

Times of meetings

22. The tentative schedule aims to make the best use of the facilities available during normal working hours. No scheduling or budgetary provision has been made for evening or weekend sessions. Consistent with local working hours and to avoid incurring overtime expenses, the normal working hours of the Conference will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. No provision has been made for more than two meetings to be held with interpretation services at any one time.

4. Credentials of delegations

23. Rule 19 of the rules of procedure provides: "The credentials of representatives as well as the names of alternative representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Permanent Secretariat, if possible not later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the session. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the Permanent Secretariat. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization." Rule 20 of the rules of procedure provides: "The Bureau of any session shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the Conference of the Parties for decision." In addition, rule 21 provides: "Representatives shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the session, pending a decision by the Conference of the Parties to accept their credentials."

5. Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers

24. Article 22, paragraph 7 of the Convention provides: "The United Nations, its specialized agencies and any State member thereof or observers thereto not Party to the Convention, may be represented at sessions of the Conference of the Parties as observers. Any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, which is qualified in matters covered by the Convention, and which has informed the Permanent Secretariat of its wish to be represented at a session of the Conference of the Parties as an observer, may be so admitted unless at least one third of the Parties present object." Rule 7 of the rules of procedure contains provisions to similar effect.

25. Decision 26/COP.1 contains provisions on accrediting non-governmental organizations and according observer status to intergovernmental organizations to the first and subsequent sessions of the COP. In accordance with these procedures, a list of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations newly proposed for accreditation at the COP is contained in ICCD/COP(5)/9.

6. Programme and budget

(a) *Programme and budget for the biennium 2002-2003*

26. The Convention, in article 22, paragraph 2(g), calls on the Conference of the Parties to approve a programme and budget for its activities, including those of its subsidiary bodies, and to undertake necessary arrangements for their financing.

27. By its decision 4/COP.4, the Executive Secretary was requested to submit to the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session a Programme Budget for the biennium 2002-2003. The Executive Secretary was further requested to include detailed tables of the proposed expenditures and resource requirements for each subsidiary body under the budget line for substantive support to the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies. The proposed Programme and Budget for the biennium 2002-2003 is contained in ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.1, while ICCD/COP(5)/2 provides a general overview of the programme and budget documents submitted to COP 5 for consideration.

28. By the same decision 4/COP.4, the Conference of the Parties also requested the secretariat to inform on activities to be funded out of the core budget and, where appropriate, out of the Supplementary Fund, and in consistency with the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties. Document ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.2 contains the relevant information on the proposed utilization of the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund for the biennium 2002-2003.

(b) *Report on the performance of the Convention's trust funds in 2000-2001*

(c) *Report on the performance of the Trust Fund for supplementary activities in the biennium 2000-2001*

29. By decision 4/COP.4, the Conference of the Parties invited the Executive Secretary to report to its fifth session on the performance of all the Convention's trust funds in 2000 and 2001 in accordance with the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties. The report of the Executive Secretary on the performance of the Convention's trust funds in 2000-2001 is contained in ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.3, while ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.4 contains information on the performance of the Trust Fund for supplementary activities in the same biennium.

(d) *Need for, modalities for, costs involved and feasibility of the regional coordination units*

30. The Conference of the Parties, at its fourth session, noted that there has been insufficient time to consider document ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.1 on regional coordination units. By decision 4/COP.4, the Executive Secretary was then requested to submit a new report with a view to enabling the Conference of the Parties to take a decision at its fifth session. The report of the Executive Secretary is contained in ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.5.

- (e) *Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001*

31. By the same decision 4/COP.4, the Executive Secretary was further requested to report to the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session on the status of the trust funds established under the financial rules. The status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds is presented in ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.6.

7. Review of the implementation of the Convention
and of its institutional arrangements

32. Pursuant to article 22, paragraphs 2(a) and 2(b), and article 26, of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties is to review implementation of the Convention and its institutional arrangements.

- (a) *Consideration of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group for the in-depth review and analysis of the reports submitted to the third and fourth sessions of the Conference of the Parties*

33. The Ad Hoc Working Group (AHWG) was established by decision 6/COP.3. In accordance with decisions 6/COP.3 and 1/COP.4, the AHWG was to review and analyze in depth the reports submitted at the third and fourth sessions of the Conference of the Parties and to draw up conclusions and propose concrete recommendations for further steps in the implementation of the Convention.

34. Pursuant to decision 1/COP.4, the AHWG received its procedural guidelines. The AHWG would review all national reports individually prior to COP 5 and analyse reports by adopting thematic approaches without neglecting other issues contained in the reports. The AHWG would conclude the process of reviewing all remaining reports submitted at the third and fourth sessions of the Conference of the Parties, during the period between the fourth and fifth sessions, by convening an inter-sessional meeting of up to 15 working days. It was further decided that the AHWG would submit an interim report on its work to the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties and a comprehensive report on its conclusions and concrete recommendations on further steps in the implementation of the Convention to the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session.

35. The first session of the AHWG was held during COP 4, from 15 to 21 December 2000. The interim report of the co-Chairmen was adopted by the AHWG and submitted to the Conference of the Parties for consideration. By its decision 2/COP.4, the Conference of the Parties took note with appreciation of the interim report of the AHWG and decided to include it as an annex to the report of COP 4.

36. The resumed session of the AHWG was convened in Bonn, Germany, from 19 March to 6 April 2001, and adopted its comprehensive report as requested by decision 1/COP.4.

37. By decision 3/COP.4, the Executive Secretary was requested to circulate the comprehensive report of the Ad Hoc Working Group at least eight weeks prior to the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties. This is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/AHWG/6 for consideration and any action the Conference of the Parties may wish to take.

- (b) *Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention*

38. Pursuant to decision 6/COP.3, Parties and other interested institutions and organizations, including non-governmental organizations, were invited to submit written proposals and suggestions on the need for the establishment of a committee to review the implementation of the Convention, in order further to develop the existing review system and to consider and take a decision on this issue at its fourth session and, if necessary, at its fifth session.

39. By its decision 3/COP.4, the Conference of the Parties called for further proposals and suggestions of Parties and other interested institutions, having taken into account the experience and comprehensive report of the AHWG, on concrete recommendations for the review of implementation of the Convention, including proposals on procedures and modalities for the establishment of a committee to review the implementation of the Convention (CRIC), to be submitted through the secretariat for consideration at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties. The secretariat compiled and summarized these submissions, so as to facilitate consideration by the COP, and these are contained in ICCD/COP(5)/3/Add.1.

- (c) *Consideration of the report on ways of improving the efficiency and the effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology*

40. By its decision 17/COP.4, the COP took note of the observations and recommendations of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) during its fourth session. The COP also encouraged the Parties to hold extensive consultations on ways of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the CST, and to transmit their recommendations to the secretariat by 1 May 2001.

41. In accordance with decision 17/COP.4, the secretariat compiled the submissions received by Parties and facilitated the convening of a consultation meeting among representatives of the regional groups on ways of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the CST. The outcome of the consultations, as well as the compilation of the submissions, are contained in ICCD/COP(5)/3/Add.2.

- (d) *Review of the report of the secretariat on progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention*

42. Decision 5/COP.3 requested the secretariat to provide for the forthcoming sessions of the Conference of the Parties a synthesis from each subregion, with the aim of elaborating a comparative document on the progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention. By decision 11/COP.1, the secretariat is also requested, after the third ordinary session and following every subsequent ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties, to prepare a report summarizing the conclusions of the review process. The relevant information is provided in ICCD/COP(5)/3, which also contains a report on the secretariat's activities, in accordance with article 23, paragraph 2(f), of the Convention.

- (e) *Review of available information regarding the financing of the implementation of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b), of the Convention*

43. By its decision 9/COP.1, the COP decided to include, as a standing item on its agenda, a review of available information on the financing of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b). This is contained in ICCD/COP(5)/3/Add.3.

- (f) *Review of the report of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism on their role and results obtained in facilitating consultative processes to negotiate and conclude partnership agreements based on national, subregional and regional action programmes*

44. By its decision 5/COP.3, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD and the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism, in conformity with the provisions of the Convention, effectively to assist affected African country Parties, upon request, in facilitating the convocation of consultative processes in order to negotiate and conclude partnership agreements based on national, subregional and regional action programmes. The Executive Secretary of the UNCCD and the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism were also requested to report at each session of the Conference of the Parties on their role in facilitating these processes and the results obtained. The relevant information on this subject is contained in ICCD/COP(5)/3 and ICCD/COP(5)/4, the reports of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism on their activities, respectively.

- (g) *Consideration of some specific conclusions and recommendations made by the Global Mechanism related to affected country Parties experiences and constraints in the implementation of action programmes*

45. This item was introduced in the provisional agenda at the request of Sweden on behalf of the European Union and its country Members. Rule 10, paragraph (e), of the rules of procedure states that the provisional agenda of the Conference of the Parties should include "any item proposed by a Party and received by the Permanent Secretariat before the provisional agenda is circulated".

46. In accordance with the above-mentioned rule, the secretariat included the present item in the provisional agenda of COP 5 for its consideration and any action it may wish to take. The relevant information on this matter can be found in ICCD/COP(5)/4.

8. Committee on Science and Technology

- (a) *Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it*

47. Pursuant to decision 9/COP.1, the review of the CST report constitutes a standing item on the agenda of the COP. In accordance with decisions 16/COP.4, 17/COP.4 and 10/COP.4, the programme of work of the CST at its fifth session would include consideration of the topics on the agenda of its fourth session as well as of the following: (a) strategies for the communication of information and its use in generating best practices for combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought; (b) report on ways of improving the efficiency and the effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology; (c) proposals on how to revise the UNCCD National Reports Help Guide, with the aim of providing guidance to Parties better to reflect in their national reports the activities of the scientific communities and institutions.

48. The CST will be transmitting to the COP draft decisions resulting from the deliberations at its fifth session. The report of the Committee will also describe the proposed CST work programme for the period after COP 5. The COP may wish to discuss the programme of work, make suggestions for its revision and provide any necessary guidance to the CST.

- (b) *Maintenance of the roster of experts*

49. The Convention, in article 24, paragraph 2, provides that the COP will establish and maintain a roster of independent experts with expertise and experience in the relevant fields. Procedures related to the establishment and maintenance of a roster of independent experts were adopted by the COP by decision 18/COP.1. By decision 13/COP.4, Parties were invited to supplement their submissions to the secretariat for inclusion in the roster to ensure that under-represented areas were addressed, in particular by: (a) making the roster more balanced in terms of gender; (b) ensuring better representation of relevant disciplines; and (c) including expertise from grassroots organizations and non-governmental organizations. By decision 15/COP.4, the Parties were also requested to inform the secretariat on the use that they have made of the roster of independent experts. The updated roster and the report on the use made of it are contained in ICCD/COP(5)/5 and Add.1. In accordance with decision 11/COP.2, the roster is also being made available in electronic form on the secretariat's World Wide Web site at the following address: <<http://www.unccd.int/cop/cst/search.php>>.

- (c) *Creation of an ad hoc panel or panels of experts, if necessary, with their terms of reference*

50. Article 24, paragraph 3, of the UNCCD provides for the creation of ad hoc panels as necessary by the Conference of the Parties. By decision 14/COP.4, the COP appointed an ad hoc panel on early warning systems. After considering the report of the CST, the COP may wish to consider appointing ad hoc panels, including reappointing those already established, as necessary, in accordance with the procedures contained in decision 17/COP.1 for the establishment of ad hoc panels.

9. Global Mechanism: Review, pursuant to article 21, paragraph 5(d), of the Convention, of the report on the activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it

51. Pursuant to decision 24/COP.1, the Global Mechanism (GM) is requested to provide reports to the sessions of the Conference of the Parties on its activities, including: (i) The operations and activities of the GM, including the effectiveness of its activities in promoting the mobilization and channelling of the substantial financial resources to affected developing country Parties; (ii) The assessment of future availability of funds for implementation of the Convention, as well as assessment and proposals for effective ways and means of providing such funds.

52. The report of the Global Mechanism on its activities is contained in document ICCD/COP(5)/4 for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

10. Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies

53. Pursuant to decision 9/COP.1, the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other conventions in accordance with article 8 and article 22, paragraph 2(i), of the Convention shall be included as a standing item on the agenda of the Conference of the Parties. The report of the Executive Secretary on this issue is contained in ICCD/COP(5)/6.

11. Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue sessions

54. By decision 27/COP.1, the COP requested that additional open dialogue sessions organized by non-governmental organizations be included within the official programme of work of future sessions of the COP, and that the secretariat of the Convention make every effort to facilitate inclusion of at least two such half-day sessions within the official programme of work. Such sessions would be organized in consultation with the secretariat and the Bureau of the COP through the President. Half-day sessions have been tentatively scheduled for 5 and 10 October 2001.

12. Outstanding items

(a) *Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure*

55. Article 22, paragraph 2(e), of the Convention provides that the Conference of the Parties shall "agree upon and adopt, by consensus, rules of procedure... for itself and any subsidiary bodies". At its first session, by decision 1/COP.1, the COP adopted its rules of procedure, with the exception of some paragraphs contained in rules 22, 31 and 47. The text of rules 22 and 31 was amended by decision 20/COP.2. By decision 21/COP.2, the COP decided also to give further consideration to paragraph 1 of rule 47 of the rules of procedure, not yet agreed upon, and the text resulting from this decision was provided in the annex to ICCD/COP(3)/13.

56. By its decision 19/COP.4, the Conference of the Parties, having heard the report of the President of COP 3 on the result of his consultations on the outstanding issue related to rule 47 of the rules of procedure, requested the secretariat to include consideration of this issue on the agenda of its fifth session. The information relevant to this item is contained in ICCD/COP(4)/7 and ICCD/COP(5)/7.

(b) *Consideration of procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention, with a view to deciding how to take this matter forward*

(c) *Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6, of the Convention*

57. By decision 20/COP.4, the Conference of the Parties decided, in accordance with articles 27 and 28 of the Convention, to convene during its fourth session an open-ended ad hoc group of experts to examine procedures for the resolution of questions of implementation and annexes on arbitration and conciliation procedures, and make recommendations thereon, taking into account the report prepared by the secretariat and in the light of the progress of the negotiations on the same matters in other environmental conventions.

58. By decision 23/COP.4, the Conference of the Parties decided, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention, to reconvene the open-ended ad hoc group of experts during its fifth session. Parties were invited to communicate their views to the secretariat on how to take the matter forward, in writing, by 31 May 2001.

59. Pursuant to the same decision 23/COP.4, the secretariat was requested to incorporate such views into a revised version of ICCD/COP(4)/8, parts I and II, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session. The secretariat was also requested to update the information contained in the document submitted to COP 4 above, as necessary, to reflect the progress achieved in this area in other conventions, and to prepare revised documentation for consideration at its fifth session. This is contained in ICCD/COP(5)/8.

60. The open-ended ad hoc group of experts is tentatively scheduled to meet on 10 and 11 October 2001.

13. Programme of work for the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties

61. By its decision 5/COP.4, the Conference of the Parties decided to include the following selected item in the agenda of its sixth session:

(i) Review of reports on implementation of affected country Parties of all regions, including on the participatory process, and on experience gained and results achieved in the preparation and implementation of national action programmes;

(ii) Review of the report on progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in all regions;

(iii) Review of reports by developed country Parties on measures taken to assist in the preparation and implementation of action programmes of affected country Parties of all regions, including information on financial resources they have provided, or are providing, under the Convention;

(iv) Review of information provided by relevant organs, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, on their activities in support of the preparation and implementation of action programmes under the Convention;

62. Pursuant to decision 9/COP.3, the second review of policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism will take place at the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties.

63. In accordance with decision 9/COP.1, the Conference of the Parties may wish to review the programme of work for the next session as appropriate.

14. Report of the session

64. A draft report of the session will be prepared for adoption at the final plenary meeting, in accordance with established practice. The COP is invited to authorize the Rapporteur to complete the final report after the session, with the assistance of the secretariat and under the guidance of the President.

Annex I

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Documents available at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties:

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(5)/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work - Provisional agenda and annotations
ICCD/COP(5)/2	Programme and budget
ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.1	Programme and budget - Addendum - Programme and Budget for the biennium 2002-2003
ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.2	Programme and budget - Addendum - Programme and Budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (supplementary fund and special fund)
ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.3	Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the performance of the Convention's trust funds for 2000-2001
ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.4	Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the performance of the Trust Fund for supplementary activities in the biennium 2000-2001 (as at 30 June 2001)
ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.5	Programme and budget - Addendum - Need for, estimates for, cost involved and feasibility of the proposed coordination units
ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.6	Programme and Budget - Addendum - Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds in the biennium 2000-2001
ICCD/COP(5)/3	Implementation of the Convention - Review of the report of the secretariat on progress made by affected Country Parties in the implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(5)/3/Add.1	Implementation of the Convention - Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(5)/3/Add.2	Implementation of the Convention - Synthesis of the report on ways of improving the efficiency and the effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(5)/3/Add.3	Implementation of the Convention - Review of available information regarding the financing of the implementation of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention
ICCD/COP(5)/4	Global Mechanism - Review, pursuant to article 21, paragraph 5(d) of the Convention, of the report on activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it
ICCD/COP(5)/5	Maintenance of the Roster of experts
ICCD/COP(5)/5/Add.1	Maintenance of the Roster of experts - Addendum
ICCD/COP(5)/6	Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies
ICCD/COP(5)/7	Outstanding items - Consideration of rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure
ICCD/COP(5)/8	Outstanding items - Consideration of procedure and institutional mechanism for the resolution of questions on implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention, with a view to deciding how to take this matter forward - Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6 of the Convention
ICCD/COP(5)/9	Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers
ICCD/COP(5)/10	Credential of delegations: report of the Bureau to the COP
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.1	Arrangements for the fifth session of the Conference of the parties - Preliminary information for participants
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.2	Status of ratification of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.3	Preliminary list of UNCCD directory of focal points (as of 30 September 2001)
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.4	List of participants
<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>

ICCD/COP(5)/INF.6	Report of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.7	Assessment of the status of land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas Land degradation assessment in drylands and the Millenium Ecosystem Assessment

Documents available at the fifth session of the Committee on Science and Technology:

ICCD/COP(5)/CST/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: Provisional agenda and annotations
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/2	Traditional knowledge - Proposal of the Government of Italy for the realization of a pilot project for a network of institutions, bodies and experts on traditional knowledge
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/3	Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/4	Early Warning Systems - Report of the ad hoc panel
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/5	Proposals on how to revise the UNCCD National Reports Help Guide, with the aim of providing guidance to Parties to better reflect the activities of the scientific communities and institutions in their national reports
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/6	Strategies for the communication of information and its use to generate best practices for combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/7	Benchmarks and indicators - Report of CILSS and OSS on their initiative on the development of benchmarks and indicators

Other documents:

Fourth session of the Conference of the Parties

ICCD/COP(4)/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work - Provisional agenda and annotations
ICCD/COP(4)/2	Programme and budget
<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.1	Programme and budget - Addendum - Need for, modalities for, costs involved and feasibility of the regional coordination units
ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.2	Programme and budget - Addendum - Proposal on the ways of improving the budgeting and reporting process

- ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.3 Programme and budget - Addendum - Performance report of the Convention's trust funds in 1999
- ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.4 Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in 1999
- ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.5 Programme and budget - Addendum - Audited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds in 1999: report of the United Nations Board of Auditors
- ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.6 Programme and budget - Addendum - Performance report of the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 June 2000 and current administrative arrangements with the United Nations
- ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.7 Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 June 2000
- ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.8 Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001 as of 30 November 2000.
- ICCD/COP(4)/3 Implementation of the Convention - Review of the report of the secretariat on progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention
- ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.1 Implementation of the Convention - Reports on implementation by affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including on the participatory process and on experience gained and results achieved in the preparation and implementation of national action programmes - Review of the report on progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in regions other than Africa (Asia)

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.2	Implementation of the Convention - Reports on implementation by affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including on the participatory process and on experience gained and results achieved in the preparation and implementation of national action programmes - Review of the report on progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in regions other than Africa (Latin America and the Caribbean)
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.3	Implementation of the Convention - Reports on implementation by affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including on the participatory process and on experience gained and results achieved in the preparation and implementation of national action programmes - Review of the report on progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in regions other than Africa (Northern Mediterranean and other affected country Parties)
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.4	Implementation of the Convention - Reports by developed country Parties on measures taken to assist in the preparation and implementation of action programmes, including information on financial resources they have provided, or are providing, under the Convention
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.5	Implementation of the Convention - Review of information provided by organs, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, on their activities in support of the preparation and implementation of action programmes under the Convention - Review of available information regarding the financing of the implementation of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.6	Implementation of the Convention - Review of the report of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism on their role and results obtained in facilitating consultative processes to negotiate and conclude partnership agreements based on national, subregional and regional action programmes
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.7	Implementation of the Convention - Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.8	Implementation of the Convention - Consideration of an additional regional implementation annex to the Convention, with a view to adopting it
ICCD/COP(4)/3/Add.9	Implementation of the Convention - Consideration of a draft declaration on the commitments to enhance the implementation of the obligations of the Convention
ICCD/COP(4)/4	Global Mechanism - Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d) of the Convention, of the report on policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it
ICCD/COP(4)/4/Add.1	Global Mechanism - Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d) of the Convention, of the report on policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it - Addendum - Report on the operational strategy of the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(4)/4/Add.2	Global Mechanism - Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d) of the Convention, of the report on policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it - Addendum - Report of the Facilitation Committee of the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(4)/5	Maintenance of the Roster of experts
ICCD/COP(4)/5/Add.1	Maintenance of the Roster of experts - Addendum
ICCD/COP(4)/6	Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies
ICCD/COP(4)/7	Outstanding items - Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure
ICCD/COP(4)/8	Outstanding items - Consideration of procedure and institutional mechanism for the resolution of questions of implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention, with a view to deciding how to take this matter forward - Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6 of the Convention
ICCD/COP(4)/9	Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers
ICCD/COP(4)/10	Credential of delegations: report of the Bureau to the COP

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(4)/11	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session: Proceedings
ICCD/COP(4)/11/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session: Action taken
ICCD/COP(4)/AHWG/6	Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group to the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties

Fourth session of the Committee on Science and Technology

ICCD/COP(4)/CST/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: Provisional agenda and annotations
ICCD/COP(4)/CST/2	Traditional knowledge - Report of the ad hoc panel
ICCD/COP(4)/CST/3	Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies
ICCD/COP(4)/CST/4	Early warning systems - Report of the ad hoc panel
ICCD/COP(4)/CST/5	Synthesis of scientific and technical information contained in the reports from country Parties, in particular on benchmarks and indicators, for review by the CST

Third session of the Conference of the Parties

ICCD/COP(3)/20	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its third session: Proceedings
ICCD/COP(3)/20/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its third session: Action taken

Second session of the Conference of the Parties

ICCD/COP(2)/14	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its second session: Proceedings
ICCD/COP(2)/14/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its second session: Action taken

First session of the Conference of the Parties

ICCD/COP(1)/11	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its first session: Proceedings
ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties at its first session: Action taken

Annex II

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF WORK

MONDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2001		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	Informal Consultations	1. Opening of the Conference by Executive Secretary of UNCCD 2. Election of President of COP 3. Statement by the President 4. Statement by Under-Secretary-General on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations 5. Statement by the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations 6. Statement by the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization 7. Statement by the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development 8. Statement by the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility 9. Statements by other heads of United Nations agencies and programmes and executive secretaries of convention secretariats 10. Statement by representative of non-governmental organizations 11. Statement by Executive Secretary of UNCCD 12. Adoption of the agenda (ICCD/COP(5)/1) 13. Election of other officers, including Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology 14. Adoption of organization of work and establishment of Committee of the Whole (ICCD/COP(5)/1) 15. Admission of observers and accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (ICCD/COP(5)/9) 16. Other statements by Parties and observers
C O W	- - -	• Programme and budget (ICCD/COP(5)/2): - Programme and budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.1 and Add.2)

MONDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2001, cont'd		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
C S T	- - -	- - -
A H G E*	- - -	- - -

* open ended ad hoc group of experts established by decision 20/COP.3

TUESDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2001		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	- - -	- - -
C O W	• Programme and budget: - Report on the performance of the Convention's trust funds in 2000-2001 (ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.3) - Report on the performance of the Trust Fund for supplementary activities in 2000-2001 (ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.4)	• Programme and budget: - Need for, modalities for, costs involved and feasibility of the regional coordination units (ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.5) - Status of contributions (ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.6)
C S T	• Organization of work (ICCD/COP(5)/CST/1) • Establishment of a roster of experts (ICCD/COP(5)/5 and Add.1) • Survey and evaluation of networks (ICCD/COP(5)/CST/3)	• Ways of improving the efficiency and the effectiveness of the CST (ICCD/COP(5)/3/Add.2) • Benchmarks and indicators (ICCD/COP(5)/CST/7)

TUESDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2001, cont'd		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
A H G E	- - -	- - -

WEDNESDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2001		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	- - -	- - -
C O W	• Implementation of the Convention: - Consideration of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group (ICCD/COP(4)/AHWG/6)	• Implementation of the Convention: - Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the COP in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention (ICCD/COP(5)/3/Add.1)
C S T	• Traditional knowledge (ICCD/COP(5)/CST/2) • UNCCD National Reports Help Guide (ICCD/COP(5)/CST/5)	• Early warning systems (ICCD/COP(5)/CST/4) • Assessment of the status of land degradation in drylands and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (ICCD/COP(5)/Inf.7) • Strategies for communication of information and its use for combating desertification (ICCD/COP(5)/CST/6)
A H G E	- - -	- - -

THURSDAY, 4 OCTOBER 2001		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	- - -	- - -
C O N	• Implementation of the Convention: - Review of available information regarding the financing of Convention implementation by multilateral agencies and institutions, including the GEF (ICCD/COP(5)/3/Add.3)	• Implementation of the Convention: - Review of the report of the secretariat on progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention and on results obtained in negotiating partnership agreements (ICCD/COP(5)/3 and ICCD/COP(5)/4) - Consideration of some specific conclusions and recommendations made by the Global Mechanism related to affected country Parties experiences and constraints in the implementation of action programmes (ICCD/COP(5)/4)
C S T	• Creation of ad hoc panel(s) of experts • Programme of work for CST	• Drafting of the report to COP • Adoption of recommendations to COP
A H G E*	- - -	- - -

FRIDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2001		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	• Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official COP work programme: open dialogue session	• Report of the Committee of the Whole • Adoption of the report of CST
C O W	- - -	- - -
C S T	- - -	- - -
A H G E*	- - -	- - -

MONDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2001		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	• Special segment on implementation of the Convention	• Special segment on implementation of the Convention
C O W	• Global Mechanism: - Review of the report on activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it (ICCD/COP(5)/4)	• Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies (ICCD/COP(5)/6)
C S T	- - -	- - -
A H G E*	- - -	- - -

TUESDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2001		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	• Special segment on implementation of the Convention	• Special segment on implementation of the Convention
C O N	To be determined	To be determined
C S T	- - -	- - -
A N G E*		

WEDNESDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2001		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y		• Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official COP work programme: open dialogue session
C O N	• Outstanding items: - Consideration of rules of Procedure not yet agreed upon: Rule 47 (ICCD/COP(5)/7)	
C S T	- - -	- - -
A N G E*	- - -	• Outstanding items: - Consideration of procedure and institutional mechanism for the resolution of questions of implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention, with a view to deciding how to take this matter forward (ICCD/COP(5)/8)

THURSDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2001		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	- - -	- - -
C O W	• Programme of work for the sixth session of the COP	• Adoption of the report to the Conference of the Parties
C S T	- - -	- - -
A H G E*	• Outstanding items: - Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6, of the Convention (ICCD/COP(5)/8)	• Adoption of conclusions and recommendations to the Conference of the Parties

FRIDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2001		
	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	• Adoption of conclusions of the Committee of the Whole • Adoption of conclusions of the ad hoc group of experts	• Other actions to be taken by the COP • Report of the session
C O W	To be determined	To be determined
C S T	- - -	- - -
A H G E*	- - -	- - -

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